

CLAYTON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Monday, August 3, 2009
The Center of Clayton - Multipurpose Room C

The following members were present:

Alex Berger	Dick Hyde
Ira Berkowitz	Robert Kerr
Mimi Deem	Eric Schneider
Judy Goodman	Mark Winings
Jessie Hoagland	

Excused/Absent

Rosemary Hardy
Omri Praiss

Also present:

Eric Gruenenfelder
Susan Renard

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes from the July 6 meeting were approved pending two corrections.

Addresses from the Audience

There was not an audience present at this Commission meeting.

Parks Division Overview

Ms. Renard, Parks Superintendant, conducted a Power Point Presentation that included the breakdown of the Parks Maintenance staff. (Please refer to the Power Point handout for additional information) Ms. Renard spoke about the services and specific buildings her staff is in charge of throughout the City of Clayton. She also talked about the recent projects her staff has completed.

Recent park projects include:

- The installation of a stone walkway at Hanley Park
- A new fence at Taylor Park
- A pergola at Oak Knoll Park
- A new brick sign was built outside of Shaw Park Pool
- Rain barrels were installed at Oak knoll Park
- Horseshoes Pits were refurbished by Harrison Garret, an Eagle Scout from Clayton
- The Herb Garden at Hanley Park, as well as painting the wrought iron fences at the park
- Fifty-five new trees have been planted

The Parks staff maintains over 3 acres of garden areas throughout Clayton. Our new, field technician, Mr. Josh Slayback has done an excellent job maintaining the ball fields. The Parks staff is also responsible for helping at Special Event held in the parks. They assist with the set-up and breakdown at the events, as well as with putting up decorations.

FY09/FY10 Project Update

Ms. Renard and Mr. Gruenenfelder conducted a Power Point Presentation about upcoming projects. (Please refer to the Power Point handout for additional information) SWT Design is going to do the design for the Shaw Park Recreational Walking Trail. SWT Design has excellent experience. Their team assisted with the Heman Park Trail, Grant's Trail, Great Rivers Greenway and St. Louis Zoo. A six foot path will be created through Shaw Park and may remove a portion of the service trail.

We entered into an agreement with Unlimited Play for the Inclusion Playground project. Unlimited Play designed Zachary's Playground in Lake St. Louis and is currently working on a playground in the City of O'Fallon.

The Shaw Park Tennis Center will have a new design from the USTA by the end of the week. The project is scheduled to begin after lessons end in October. An RFP was created in order to get bids for the Shaw Park Ball Field #1 and #2 project. The Athletic and Facilities department is working on getting grants for field lights. Ms. Renard stated that electrical outlets can be installed at these fields. Other projects we are working on are: The Hanley House porch, Coffee Kiosk, Oak Knoll Pathway (project will begin September 21 after the last Musical Nights) and Shaw Park service road resurfacing. Mr. Gruenenfelder and Ms. Renard also talked about the projects that have been completed at Hanley Park.

Financial Report

Mr. Gruenenfelder stated that everything is going well at Shaw Park Pool. In order to cut back on expenses they are sending staff home early on cool days. What helped with revenue is that we sold a large number pool passes prior to the season. The Concession Stand is generating more revenue due to the fact that prices increased. Revenue is down in the daily pass account due to weather conditions. We have a Lacrosse group who has been utilizing the Ice Rink on Friday and Saturday nights. This has increased usage and revenue. The Tennis Center added new camps this year which increased revenue. The USTA has helped us develop a programming base.

Old Business / New Business

Mr. Winings asked Mr. Berger if he had any new information to report on in reference to the smoking ban. Mr. Berger responded by stating that he feels as if we need to communicate our thoughts and opinions more effectively. Preconceived notions are an obstacle. Ms. Goodman stated that the primary obstacle is outdoor dining and whether it should be included in the ban or not. The original plan was not comprehensive enough. The alderman are very hopeful about the change.

Mr. Schneider commented on the fact that the City did a great job re-striping the bike pathway. Also, it would be helpful if someone contacted the City of St. Louis about striping the bike pathway near Forest Park, so it does not appear as if the City of Clayton stopped painting the bike path at that intersection.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Denise Ucinski